

Appl. No. 10/087,939  
Amdt. dated 02/14/2006  
Reply to Office Action of 11/16/2005

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims, in the Application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of maintaining a two-byte identification field of an Internet protocol (IP) header of a packet, the packet being transmitted over a network, the method comprising the steps of:  
  
determining whether ~~the~~ a packet is permitted to be fragmented; and  
  
using a non-unique identification number in the IP header if the packet is not permitted to be fragmented, the non-unique identification number being a number that all packets that are not to be fragmented have as an IP identification number.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the network is a Gigabit Ethernet network.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein a re-assembly timer is set to 30 seconds.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein a bit is set in the IP header to indicate whether the packet is permitted to be fragmented.

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5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the bit is set in a flag field of the IP header.
6. (Currently amended) A computer program product on a computer readable medium for maintaining a two-byte identification field of an Internet protocol (IP) header of a packet, the packet being transmitted over a network, the computer program product comprising:
- code means for determining whether ~~the~~ a packet is permitted to be fragmented; and
- code means for using a non-unique identification number in the IP header if the packet is not permitted to be fragmented, the non-unique identification number being a number that all packets that are not to be fragmented have as an IP identification number.
7. (Original) The computer program product of claim 6 wherein the network is a Gigabit Ethernet network.
8. (Original) The computer program product of claim 7 wherein a re-assembly timer is set to 30 seconds.
9. (Original) The computer program product of claim 8 wherein a bit is set in the IP header to indicate whether the packet is permitted to be fragmented.

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10. (Original) The computer program product of claim 9 wherein the bit is set in a flag field of the IP header.

11. (Currently amended) An apparatus for maintaining a two-byte identification field of an Internet protocol (IP) header of a packet, the packet being transmitted over a network, the apparatus comprising:

means for determining whether the a packet is permitted to be fragmented; and

means for using a non-unique identification number in the IP header if the packet is not permitted to be fragmented, the non-unique identification number being a number that all packets that are not to be fragmented have as an IP identification number.

12. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 11 wherein the network is a Gigabit Ethernet network.

13. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 12 wherein a re-assembly timer is set to 30 seconds.

14. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein a bit is set in the IP header to indicate whether the packet is permitted to be fragmented.

15. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein the bit is set in a flag field of the IP header.

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16. (Currently amended) A computer system for maintaining a two-byte identification field of an Internet protocol (IP) header of a packet, the packet being transmitted over a network, the computer system comprising:

at least one memory device for storing code data; and

at least one processor for processing the code data to determine whether ~~the~~ a packet is permitted to be fragmented and to use a non-unique identification number in the IP header if the packet is not permitted to be fragmented, the non-unique identification number being a number that all packets that are not to be fragmented have as an IP identification number.

17. (Original) The computer system of Claim 16 wherein the network is a Gigabit Ethernet network.

18. (Original) The computer system of Claim 17 wherein a re-assembly timer is set to 30 seconds.

19. (Original) The computer system of Claim 18 wherein a bit is set in the IP header to indicate whether the packet is permitted to be fragmented.

20. (Original) The computer system of Claim 19 wherein the bit is set in a frag field of the IP header.

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